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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Moore County Updating Countywide Vaccination Plan, Anticipating COVID-19 Vaccine Availability

Utilizing preliminary information provided by the US Public Health Service and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding Operation Warp Speed, the Moore County Health Department has begun drafting Moore County's local COVID-19 Pandemic Vaccination Plan. Operation Warp Speed strives to deliver 300 million doses of a safe, effective vaccine for COVID-19 by January 2021, as part of a broader strategy to accelerate the development, manufacturing, and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics. The Trump Administration first announced the framework for Operation Warp Speed on May 15th.

The Health Department will be utilizing the County's existing pandemic vaccination plan as a starting point. The plan will be adjusted as more information becomes available from the National Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and the National Academy of Medicine as well as the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS). The Health Department has coordinated, and will continue to coordinate, with local partners such as Moore County Emergency Management, FirstHealth of the Carolinas, Moore County Schools, and all long-term care facilities.

As part of Operation Warp Speed, five jurisdictions have been selected by the federal government as pilot sites to refine the National Vaccination Plan. They are North Dakota, Florida, California, Minnesota, and the City of Philadelphia.

Furthermore, with vaccination as a focal point, the Health Department urges everyone to ensure that they and their children are up to date for all vaccinations. Vaccination against seasonal flu, measles/mumps/rubella (MMR), pertussis, typhoid/diphtheria (Tdap), tetanus, polio, etc. will help individuals avoid being infected with vaccine-preventable diseases and thus make them less vulnerable to infection and/or complications arising from COVID-19.

The Moore County Health Department continues to encourage everyone to "Know Their W's" and continue to exercise caution when out in public: Wear a cloth face covering if you will be around other people, Wait six feet apart and avoid close contact, and Wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer.

"To Protect and Promote Health through Prevention and Control of Disease and Injury."

http://www.moorecountync.gov/health/

Environmental Health Telephone: 910-947-6283 Fax: 910-947-5127

Telephone: 910-947-3271 Fax: 910-947-2460 Moore County's Coronavirus (COVID-19) Dashboard can be found here: https://moorecounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/4c11e5bf79b64a6e9c8377d5129cc97c

For more information about coronavirus and Moore County's response, please visit www.moorecountync.gov/health, find us on Facebook (Moore County Health Department), and follow us on Twitter (@mocohealth).

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